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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. In Soviet Astara there is one regiment with 1,500 to 2,000 troops equipped with tanks, 75 mm and 45 mm artillery, anti-aircraft searchlights, and 20 trucks.
2. In the vicinity of the Astara railroad station there are located the following units:
  - a. 12,000 troops (arrived in the area in spring 1950) with 200 long-barrelled guns on rubber tires and 150 heavy and medium tanks.
  - b. One cavalry unit (500 sabers).
  - c. Ten anti-aircraft guns and searchlights manned by troops from paragraph 1 above.
3. There is a military airfield at Massaly (39-03N, 48-46E), 30 km. north of Lenkoran.
4. A military airfield is under construction north of the Astara railroad station within the area extending 12 km north from the station and 5 km west of the coast.
5. Large troop concentrations are reported at Salyany (39-35N, 48-59E) and at Alyaty (39-57N, 49-24E), both south of Baku.
6. In Lenkoran there are 40,000 to 50,000 troops (equivalent to five divisions) with 300 tanks, 250 guns, 300 mortars, 1,000 "motorized" machine guns, and

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500 trucks. Included in the above troops are 1,000 cavalry. Five flags fly over the barracks at all times; during maneuvers, up to 25 flags have been observed.

7. Immediately south of Lenkoran Chai there are 2,000 troops equipped with 30 medium and heavy tanks, and artillery, mostly motorized, up to 105 mm (short and long barrel).
8. At the port of Astara there are 200 motorboats each equipped with two machine guns and 60 fishing boats, all of which will be used as troop transports in time of war.

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Comment: The figures listed in this report appear to be considerably exaggerated. Nevertheless, the increased activity along the Astara border which has already been reported would seem to indicate the existence of large troop concentrations in this area.

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